Michael Mikula

Civil War Primary Source Assignment

**Journal**

* Author: Tony Pastor
* Date: May 4th, 1861
* Place of Origin: Harper’s Ferry Headquarters
* Explanation of Content: This letter written by John Pastor, a confederate soldier in Virginia, talking to his friend Annie Harris about the hardships of soldier life before the war and about his duties as a soldier. Also, he asks the women in his town to make and send him some clothes. Lastly, he speaks of his outlook on the impending war and also the fact that his is ready to die for Virginia.
* Analysis: The some interesting things mentioned in this letter to Annie Harris are how even before the war, living conditions and lifestyles of the confederate soldiers were very tough. Something surprising found in this letter is the fact that John really doesn’t know if he is going to go to war but is ready to die for his state claiming that “Virginia has done all that she could do”, seeing the north as the agitator and the bad guy while viewing his state as right and the victim. As far as I can see, there is a little bias toward the end in that he is describing the impending war, the cause of northern agitation. This letter was written about three weeks after the start of the civil war. This is showing that word travels slow in the south that or his company was not ordered to war yet. One thing that I want answered about this letter is that why did Tony ask for clothes when the confederate army is supposed to be supplying him with clothing?
* Citation: The Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War. Web. 22 Dec. 2010. <http://valley.lib.virginia.edu/papers/A3023>.

**Newspaper Article**

* Author: Unknown
* Date: April 27th,1861
* Title: The Bombardment of Fort Sumter
* Place of Origin: New York
* Summary: The article “The Bombardment of Fort Sumter” is about the confrontation where confederate soldiers attacked and took over Fort Sumter, a northern fort. The article also describes the surrendering process and the destruction of the fort.
* Analysis: What was interesting in this article is the description of how ready and how serious the south was a threat to the north. This article had a somewhat critical tone to it comparable to report of the attack on Pearl Harbor. To the north, this was the start of the civil war and evoked fear in many uncertain northerners. There is not much bias in this article because it wasn’t an article of politics, but one of an event that happened. The only slight bit of bias that I can detect is how the article is sympathetic to the northerners defending the fort. The event that most obviously provides insight to the article is the start of the civil war with the attack on Fort Sumter. Something that I am still wondering about this article is how many union and confederate troops were involved in this conflict?
* Citation: “Bombardment of Fort Sumter." The Civil War. Web. 22 Dec. 2010. <http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/civil-war/attack-on-ft-sumter.htm

**Image**

* Artist: Unknown
* Date: July 1864
* Title: “A Confederate Napoleon Gun used in the Defense of Atlanta”



-Description: This is an image of a confederate fort preparing for the Battle of Atlanta. In the image there are at least nine napoleon guns set up with crew for each gun, loading them and getting them ready to shoot. Also, there is a drummer and a flag barrier present.

-Analysis: The surprising thing about this image to me is the size and the amount of big artillery there is present for the battle. My previous vision of civil war armament was revolutionary type cannons and muskets behind a dirt barrier or something else crudely made. The dominant features of the photo are the big size and amount of cannons getting prepared for war with the union army. The major event that relates to this picture is the civil war itself. Quite obviously, at this time the south was in war with the north which infers that in this picture, the soldiers are getting ready for a battle. At the time this picture was taken, the Battle of Atlanta was going on. The question I have about this picture is why are there two random people in the distance standing up over everyone else?

-Citation: http://www.civilwarphotos.net/files/images/061.jpg

**Song Lyrics**

- Author: Joe Bowers

- Date: 1865

- Title: “O I'm a Good Old Rebel”

- Place of Origin: The Confederate States of America

- Analysis: The subject of this song is of hatred to the north and expressing the south’s anger and dislike of the union and what it stands for. The emotions that this song evokes is hatred, prejudice toward the north and that even though they lost the civil war, they still will never like the north and how they wish they could of killed more Yankees. What is most interesting to me about this song is about how much the south hates the north and all of what the union stands for in general. For example, in verse three, “I hates the Yankee nation And everything they do, I hates the Declaration Of Independence too; I hates the glorious Union-- 'Tis dripping with our blood-- I hates the striped banner, I fit it all I could.” This verse is flat out saying that I despise which is very surprising to me considering that the south was once a part of the union and still is nowadays. This song goes perfectly with the end of the civil war expressing the south remorse in losing and having to give up slavery and rejoining the union. My question is, does the south still hate us this much?

- Citation: Bowers, John. Public Domain Music. Web. 22 Dec. 2010. <http://www.pdmusic.org/civilwar/cws17.txt>.